

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 03671 121544Z

ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SY-05 SS-15 FBOE-00 MCT-01

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P 121431Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6584

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 3671

FOR ASST SECY THOMAS FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: PROGRAM TO COMBAT TERRORISM

REF: STATE 119510

1. THE DEPARTMENT'S CALL FOR FULL ATTENTION TO THE NEED FOR PHYSICAL SECURITY OF PREMISES LEAVES ME WONDERING WHO MOST NEEDS TO GET THE MESSAGE. WITH THE HELP OF OUR VERY ABLE SECURITY OFFICER WE HAVE, DURING THE PAST YEAR, UNDERTAKEN TO STRENGTHEN ACCESS CONTROLS AND OTHERWISE ENHANCE PHYSICAL SECURITY IN THE CHANCERY COMPOUND. SY AND FBO HAVE AUTHORIZED PROJECTS INVOLVING THE OFFICE BUILDINGS.

2. I HAVE JUST LEARNED, HOWEVER, THAT WE WILL BE DENIED FUNDS FOR A CRUCIALLY RELATED PROJECT TO PROVIDE CONTROL OVER ENTRY INTO THE EMBASSY APARTMENTS IN WHICH 40 FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS LIVE, AND WHICH ARE LITERALLY IN THE CHANCERY'S BACK YARD. THIS, OF COURSE, MEANS THAT TERRORISTS COULD INVADE THE COMPOUND WITHOUT HINDRANCE AND, WHILE WE EMPLOYEES WATCHED FROM OUR OFFICE WINDOWS, DO THEIR WILL WITH FAMILY MEMBERS INCLUDING, FOR EXAMPLE, USING THEM

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PAGE 02 BELGRA 03671 121544Z

AS HOSTAGES TO DEMAND ENTRY INTO THE CHANCERY. THE PARALLEL WITH KUALA LUMPUR--WHICH THE CABLE CITES AS AN EXAMPLE--IS TOO CLEAR FOR ME TO BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THE LOGIC OF THE DECISION. THE COST OF OUR PROJECT WAS, BY THE WAY, DOLLARS 23,000.

3. GENEROUS AS I AM, I AM PREPARED TO ASSUME THAT YOUR

COHORTS IN SY AND FBO DID NOT CONSULT YOU BEFORE DENYING
APPROVAL. THEREFORE, BEFORE WE TAKE UP A COLLECTION LOCALLY
TO COVER THE COST, I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR APPLYING YOUR JUDGMENT
TO THE QUESTION AND LETTING ME KNOW WHERE WE COME OUT.
EAGLEBURGER

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NNN

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